



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
1102 Q Street • Suite 3050 • Sacramento, CA 95811

July 12, 2024

Deborah Sims

Via email: [REDACTED]

Warning Letter Re: FPPC No. 2023-00864; Deborah Sims

Dear Deborah Sims:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).¹ This letter is in response to a referral from the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk’s office regarding your failure to timely file a Form 470 (Officeholder Campaign Statement Short Form) for your position as an Eastside Union School District Trustee.

The Act requires elected officers who do not have an open committee and do not plan to raise or spend \$2,000 or more in a non-election calendar year to file Form 470 covering the entire calendar year by July 31.²

You violated the Act because you failed to file Form 470 for the 2022 calendar year by the July 31, 2022 deadline. However, since you are no longer in the position and you have not had a prior violation of this section, the Enforcement Division has decided to close your case with this warning letter rather than a fine. Although the Enforcement Division is closing this case without seeking a penalty, you are still required to file the outstanding Form 470. Your filing officer, the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk’s office, may assess late filing penalties.

This letter serves as a written warning. The information in this matter will be retained and may be considered should an enforcement action become necessary based on newly discovered information or future conduct. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act in the future will result in monetary penalties of up to \$5,000 for each violation.

A warning letter is an Enforcement Division case resolution without administrative prosecution or fine. The Commission has adopted Regulation 18360.1 to authorize the Enforcement Division to issue warning letters to conclude cases in specified circumstances. However, the warning letter resolution does not provide you with the opportunity for a probable cause hearing or hearing before an Administrative Law Judge or the Commission. If you wish to avail yourself of these proceedings by requesting that your case proceed with prosecution rather than a warning,

¹ The Political Reform Act is contained in Government Code sections 81000 through 91014 and all statutory references are to this code.

² Sections 84200 and 84206.

please notify us within ten (10) days from the date of this letter. Upon this notification, the Enforcement Division will rescind this warning letter and proceed with administrative prosecution of this case. If we do not receive such notification, this warning letter will be posted on the Commission's website ten (10) days from the date of this letter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Vanessa Greer at vgreer@fppc.ca.gov or 279-237-5965.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Burton

Christopher B. Burton
Assistant Chief, Enforcement Division

CBB: vg

cc: Los Angeles County Registrar Recorder/County Clerk